

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 15, 2001

LB 536

higher in western Nebraska where there are fewer ethanol plants than it would be in eastern Nebraska, but I think you explained why that might happen.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Transportation costs.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay, thank you. Senator Wehrbein, if I could ask you a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein, would you yield?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: One of the issues with LB 536 is a...is the proposal or the part of LB 536 that would require a tax paid on gluten feed. Do you...do you favor that provision of LB 536?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Not really, no.

SENATOR RAIKES: And why don't you?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Two reasons, one is I don't think it's a necessary tax to tax gluten feed. Secondly, administratively, it's very difficult for those plants that produce several by-products to...and products--ethanol, high fructose syrup, others, to sort out where there by-products are coming from and then having to pay the tax, I guess, on the ethanol by-product versus other by-products. So I think it's administratively a difficult issue.

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, the second one first, if I might, I've...I've mentioned several times that I'm...that I purchase both gluten feed and distiller's grains, as I think you do also.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: You get a bill which has a number of tons on there and a price per ton...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.